at Manila. Lights twinkled here and there, the dim outlines of buildings could be distinguished, but mostly it was darkness. Little did I then imagine that Manila was to be my home for thirty years, that I was really to live there and live contentedly, and that lasting friendships with Filipinos, Americans, and other nationals were to be formed. Yet that is exactly what happened.

So let me try and give you the truth about the Philippines and the Filipinos as they are today. And the truth is that the Philippines, like every other land, has its good and bad side, and that the Filipinos have their good and bad points.

THE PHILIPPINES LOCATED ON THE MAP *

The average American has a very hazy idea of the geographical location of the Philippine Islands, He is apt to confuse them with the Hawaiian Islands and thinks them possibly a five-day journey from San Francisco. He even places the Philippine Islands in the Caribbean Sea somewhere in the West Indies near Cuba, instead of in the East Indies near Borneo. Returning residents of the Philippines report amusing experiences of this nature,

Once when I attended a class reunion, a learned law graduate asked me, "Malcolm, where did you come from?"

"The Philippines," I replied.

"And how is everything in Panama?"

Once also in the Presidential offices in Washington, I was confused with someone else in the Virgin Islands.

Ignorance regarding the Philippines is readily understandable. Before the Spanish-American War in 1898, the Philip-

pines was to the United States a *terra incognita,* not even a geographical expression. American relations with the Philippines had been confined to desultory commerce carried on by

[1] **Section read by Capt. E. H. Pagenhart, Director of Coast Surveys. See *Van Loon's Geography* (1932), Ch. XL.**